

4-23-2004

# The Wooster Voice (Wooster, OH), 2004-04-23

Wooster Voice Editors

Follow this and additional works at: <https://openworks.wooster.edu/voice2001-2011>

---

## Recommended Citation

Editors, Wooster Voice, "The Wooster Voice (Wooster, OH), 2004-04-23" (2004). *The Voice: 2001-2011*. 89.  
<https://openworks.wooster.edu/voice2001-2011/89>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the "The Voice" Student Newspaper Collection at Open Works, a service of The College of Wooster Libraries. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Voice: 2001-2011 by an authorized administrator of Open Works. For more information, please contact [openworks@wooster.edu](mailto:openworks@wooster.edu).

# THE WOOSTER VOICE

Serving the College of Wooster since 1883

Vol. CXX, Issue XXV

April 23, 2004

## Special Edition

# Voice staff protests committee

By Voice Editorial Board

On Wednesday, April 21, the Publications Committee held an open meeting. It was attended by four members of the six-person committee and representatives from the three campus publications: "Goliard," "Index," and *The Wooster Voice*.

Committee members in attendance included Chair Nancy Grace, professor of English, Assistant Professor of History Greg Shaya and Brandon Tylka '06, a student member of the committee appointed by the Student Government Association (SGA).

Also in attendance was Nicole

Thomas '06, who was appointed to the committee by Grace. Her status on the committee was disputed during the meeting because her appointment did not follow the guidelines in the charter.

According to SGA President Aaron Applebaum '04, Katie Lytch '07 had been appointed to the committee earlier this semester by Erin King '04, SGA vice president of student affairs. Lytch was also at the meeting, although her membership on the committee had not been previously recognized by the committee. Lytch was officially instated as a member during the meeting.

At the meeting, the three publications presented a list of griev-

ances and demands in response to the committee's actions this semester. In particular, *The Voice* pointed out that the committee violated its own charter while selecting student members.

In addition, the committee ignored the recommendations of current editors in chief in selecting next year's editors for *The Voice* and "Goliard" and the committee chose only one editor in chief for what is a two-person job, excluding the current editors in chief from the decision making process.

*The Voice* staff proposed an amended charter that would resolve these issues by making the selection of editors in chief the

right and responsibility of the publications themselves.

While there was consensus between committee members and publications representatives regarding the violations of the charter and the charter's shortcomings, the committee did not vote to amend the charter because they could not meet quorum.

After discussing *The Voice*'s concerns, Shaya proposed a motion that would allow *The Voice* staff to recommend a co-editor in chief for the upcoming academic year. The motion carried, but did not address the more fundamental problems of the charter and process by which editors are selected.

The members of *The Voice* staff were greatly concerned that these problems would not be resolved unless immediate action was taken to address the charter.

The Publications Committee will be re-formed next year with new members, who will undoubtedly be less informed of the immediacy and impact of these issues.

The staff therefore requested that the committee make every effort to meet quorum and pass the amended charter before the end of the year.

The committee agreed to further discuss the issues raised in an open meeting before a vote on the proposed amendment.

## Action hinged on editors' lack of input

By Voice Editorial Board

*The Wooster Voice*, "Goliard" and "Index" have proposed an amendment to the Publications Committee charter to give their editors in chief the right to choose their successors.

The publication's editors made this proposal as a result of serious communication problems and a climate of distrust. This situation arose from a breach of the charter in appointing voting committee members, insufficient opportunity to train new editors, unwillingness to schedule full committee meetings, disregard for the recommendations of current editors and the committee's poor attendance at the individual candidates interviews.

Miscommunication between the student publications and the Publications Committee has been an underlying issue for several years.

The current editors in chief were chosen last year through an interview process conducted by the then editors in chief. This year's staff

was under the impression that the selection process would proceed in the same manner. However, at the last Publications meeting in mid-February, the editors in chief were informed that the committee would be in complete control of the selection process. At that meeting, the editors were assured their recommendations for the 2004-05 editors would be given serious weight and that the editors in chief could meet to discuss their recommendations in person with the committee members.

Several weeks later, the Committee appointed two new student members with voting rights. The charter calls for three voting student members, two from the Student Government Association and one from Campus Council. Some of those members proved delinquent in attendance and the Committee appointed their own student members to assemble a fully functioning committee. However, Campus Council or SGA did not appoint these students and the committee was therefore in breach of the charter. The publications were

not formally notified of these new members, even though they voted on the budgets of the "Goliard," "Index" and *Voice*, and interviewed, reviewed and voted on the editors for the upcoming year. Also, none of these student members had attended a committee meeting when any editor was in attendance. They were asked to make and vote on decisions without sufficient knowledge of the publications or their editors. *The Voice* does not question the competence of these students to serve on the committee, but rather their appointment.

*The Voice* editors were concerned with these appointments and had planned on raising the issue at the next Publications meeting. However, no meeting was held between mid-February and the open meeting that took place this Wednesday, even though meetings are held each month in accordance with the charter. It is still unclear as to why this occurred.

Last week, interviews were conducted with all candidates for the editorships of the publications. Despite the current editors' recom-

mendation that two editors be appointed, on Tuesday, April 20, the Publications Committee announced that one *Voice* editor would serve for the 2004-05 school year. This decision demonstrated the impact of miscommunication resulting from the Publications Committee's actions. The position is not a one-person job; two editors in chief are required to efficiently run the newspaper.

The entire *Voice* staff saw this decision as a symptom of larger problems: the inefficient communication between the Publications Committee and the publications; and the Committee's lack of qualification to choose editors. While the Committee is qualified to review budgets and support the staffs in legal, ethical and journalistic matters, it is not familiar with the day-to-day workings of the paper.

Taking all of these issues into consideration, *The Voice* staff has proposed to amend the Publications Committee charter, which would transfer responsibility of choosing editors to the current Editors.

**After *The Wooster Voice* staff attended Wednesday's Open Publications Committee meeting at 4 p.m. in Kauke Hall, we decided that a statement needed to be made concerning the Committee's actions. As a result we held a vote of *The Voice* Editorial Board to decide what action to take. This issue of *The Voice* is the result of that deliberation.**

**Only by making a bold statement can we adequately express our concern about the current state of both the Committee and its charter. In order to effectively serve the campus community we need the power to choose our own leaders, the same as the majority of campus groups.**



## The Charter of the Publications Committee

### Editor's Note

*Printed below is the official Publications Committee charter in verbatim. The three student publications on campus, "Goliard," "Index" and The Wooster Voice, have made amendments to the charter, which are outlined below. Our amendments to the charter are printed in **bold**, while the points of the original charter which we would like removed or altered are [italicized] and in (parentheses.)*

*Editors of the publications agreed that the current system of choosing new editors in chief essentially eliminates the important student input needed to properly select a qualified candidate. Current flaws in the system demand that problems be addressed in a brisk and timely manner. It is essential to the proper and continued operation of the publications that these amendments be passed before the end of the year. This proposed charter was revised April 20, 2004.*

The Publications Committee shall have as its general goals to assure the free and open expression of ideas in campus publications funded by Campus Council and to support a strong recognition of the importance of the College's intellectual and educational purposes of publications of the highest quality. In carrying out these general goals, we shall abide by the Code of Individual and Social Responsibility as state in **The Scot's Key**.

### Responsibilities

1. To encourage support for these publications from the student body, the faculty and the administration.
2. To determine what publications are most important to the campus in fulfilling the educational goals of the College and to establish priorities that ensure the continuation or introductions of publications that make the most valuable contributions.
3. To ensure that the experience is an educational one for the editors by promoting editorial policies which foster high standards of quality in the writing and format of publications. If deemed necessary by the Committee, this may include such measures as the development of guidelines for specific publications, the requirement of training to hold editorial positions and the designation of non-voting members of the Committee to serve as advisors to specific publications.
4. To (appoint) **hold** the edi-

tor(s) in chief of each publication (each editor being) directly responsible to the Publications Committee for the operation of his/her publication and for the performance of any staff member appointed by the editor.

5. To promote, in conjunction with the editors, the recruitment of staff for the publications and to encourage continuity.

6. To obtain basic funding from Campus Council and to oversee financial soundness 1) by applying to Campus Council for the funds needed to operate the publications supported by the Committee, 2) by setting funding priorities for the publications supported by the Committee, and 3) by establishing procedures to review the financial condition of the publications on a regular basis.

7. To provide a forum at least once a semester, through publicized open meetings, for all constituents of the campus to express opinions directly to the Committee and the editors of the publications with respect to issues such as the quality and fairness of publications and the omission of desired materials or inclusion of undesired materials in the publications. As a result of these meetings (but in no case as a result of complaints brought to the Committee in private), the Committee will have the power to investigate and determine whether or not some significant error or omission in a publication has resulted in a distinctly and tangibly damaging representation of an issue and to ensure that the significant erroneous or omit-

ted material is corrected or published in a way to make it reasonably accessible to readers.

### Membership

1. A faculty chairperson appointed by the Committee on Committees for a two-year term.

2. Two other faculty members appointed by the Committee on Committees. Among the criteria for their selection should be knowledge of and interest in publications and the continuity of the Committee.

3. Three students who are not on the staff of any campus publication governed by the Committee, two appointed by the Student Government Association and one appointed by Campus Council for terms of one academic year.

### Other Participants (non-voting)

1. The editors **in chief** of publications (approved and funded) **supported** by the Publications Committee.

2. If applicable, the advisors of the publications. These individuals, who must be members of the faculty or administrative staff, are nominated by the editors of the publications and must be approved by the Publications Committee.

3. Staff members from the publications, at the invitation of the Committee.

4. The Dean of Students or, in his/her absence, the Secretary of the College is to be kept informed of the Committee's deliberations and to be consulted prior to entering into any contract with any agency or corporation outside the College. All contracts must be countersigned by the Secretary of the College.

When appropriate the Chair may call for an executive session, without the presence of any non-voting participants.

**Procedures related to carrying out the responsibilities of the Publications Committee**

1. The Committee may reach official decisions, including amendments to this Charter, only by a majority vote of a quorum, defined as five members with at least one from each of the three categories of membership.

2. In carrying out the responsibilities named above, the Committee shall establish no regulations to exercise prior censorship of the content of any publication.

(3. The Committee will appoint the editors of the publications it has approved.)

**3. The current editor(s) in chief of the publication will choose the next year's editor(s) in chief. The Committee shall recognize their decision. If current editor(s) are candidates for the positions, the decision then falls to the editorial staff of the respective publication.**

3A. Public solicitation of applications for any editorial position must be made.

(3B. To be approved, applicants must appear before the Committee and be elected by a majority vote.)

3B. Any member of the Committee who is a candidate for editor of any of the publications shall be excluded from the discussion and the vote of the Committee.

3C. Editors must be appointed before the end of the term of the preceding editor with a reasonable and sufficient overlap to provide for an orderly transition.

3D. In the event no one applies for editorship of an approved publication or that the (Committee) **editor(s) in chief** deem(s) none of the applicants qualified, the Committee will review its support for the publication and will continue the search only if a majority of the Committee (not merely a quorum) endorses the continuation of the publication.

3E. Persons named to editorships must sign the appropriate contracts drawn up by the Chair of

the Committee and agree to accept any other appropriate terms (such as discussions with an advisor or needed training) designated by the Committee.

**3F. If any editor fails to perform his/her duties or to oversee properly the performance of members of his/her staff, the Committee may ask for a majority vote of confidence from the editorial board of that respective publication. Any editor censured, suspended, or dismissed under this procedure may appeal the decision to Campus Council.**

(3G. The Committee may censure, suspend, or dismiss any editor for failure to perform his/her duties or to oversee properly the performance of members of his/her staff after a hearing before the Committee and a two-thirds majority vote. Any editor censured, suspended, or dismissed under this procedure may appeal the decision to Campus Council.)

3G. The Committee does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, creed, national origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or political affiliation.

4. The Committee will oversee the basic financial operations of Publications.

4A. At the appropriate time each year, the Committee will prepare a budget for Campus Council to support the publications approved by the Committee for the coming year. The Committee will request and receive funds as a single appropriation from Campus Council and then allocate Campus Council's final appropriation in accordance with the Committee's judgment of how the actual funds available can best be used to meet the priorities of the Committee for the coming year.

4B. The Committee will maintain a stabilization fund.

4B1. The stabilization fund will be made up of any surplus realized

*continued on page 3*



# Grievances and Demands

Because of the following five grievances, we have lost confidence in the Publications Committee's ability to select the editors in chief of the publications and make sound decisions concerning the welfare of the participating publications.

## Grievances:

1. In violation of Article 3 of the "Membership" section of the Charter of the Publications Committee, two student members were appointed by the committee chair without the approval of the SGA or Campus Council.
2. In violation of Article 3D of the "Procedures related to carrying out the responsibilities of the Publications Committee" section of the Charter of the Publications Committee, the editors have not been given sufficient time and opportunity to train the selected The Wooster Voice editor in chief.
3. Just as serious is the failure of this committee to schedule meetings with the publications to discuss several pertinent problems.
4. In addition, this committee ignored the recommendations of the current editors in chief of both The Voice and "Goliard."
5. It is also noted that all the voting members of this committee did not attend the interviews of all applicants for the publication's editorships.

## Demands:

1. We expect the amendments to the Charter of the Publications Committee, made in cooperation among the participating publications, will be accepted by 9 a.m. on Thursday, April 22, 2004 in their entirety with no additions or revisions.
2. If the amendments to the Charter of the Publications Committee are not accepted, then The Voice will print the Grievances and Demands listed here along with the proposed revised version of the charter and editorial comment on the actions of the Committee in its April 23, 2004 edition. The trained staff of The Voice will also refuse to continue any additional production of the newspaper until the demands are met.

Signed,  
 Pamela J. Miller, Voice  
 Eliza S. Cramer, Voice  
 Andrew R. Waldman, Goliard  
 Leah Koontz, Index  
 Kelly Fredrickson, Index  
 Sarah Core, Voice  
 Jeremy Hohertz, Voice

Erik Shilling, Voice  
 Matthew Foulds, Voice  
 Christopher Beck, Voice  
 Liz Miller, Voice  
 Caroline Hotra, Voice  
 Liz Weiss, Voice  
 Chaz Fischer, Voice

# Revisions target staffing Charter

Continued from page 2

by any publication and will be carried over from one year to the next in special Publications Committee Accounts for each publication. These accounts will be maintained by the Committee in the Treasurer's Office.

4B2. The major purpose of the stabilization fund is to cover potential financial loss, which one or more publications might experience in a given year. The coverage of such losses will have priority over any other request for these funds. In awarding monies from this fund, the Publications Committee must abide by Campus Council Funding Guidelines unless it has received Council's approval to deviate from these guidelines.

4B3. Requests for money from the stabilization fund may be granted only by a majority vote of the Committee and must be accompanied by the following information:

4B3a. A full statement of the publication's current financial condition.

4B3b. A statement explaining why the funds allocated by the

Committee and the funds obtained from other sources have been insufficient.

4C. The Committee Chairperson will be responsible for overseeing the financial accounts of each publication, for reporting to the entire Committee regularly on the financial condition of each publication, for keeping records of the overall current balances of the Publication Committee and of the stabilization fund.

4C1. The editor of each publication may be asked to provide the Committee Chairperson on a monthly basis a set of accounts of receipts, expenditures and remaining balances that includes funds from all sources (including those not allocated by the Committee, such as advertising). It is imperative that these accounts be kept up to date and be documented with completeness satisfactory to the Committee Treasurer and the Committee as a whole.

4C2. A complete financial statement must be prepared in consultation with the Publications Committee Chairperson at the end of the "business year" of each publication, ordinarily within two weeks of the end of the spring term or at another specially designated time.

# Why should you care?

## By Voice Editorial Board

The drastic measures taken by *The Voice* this week should not be seen only as a response only to the actions of the Publications Committee. Our intent is to demonstrate to the campus community that the actions of this committee and many others like it are often unknown to the campus community due to the lack of student involvement and the closed nature of their meetings.

On a daily basis, decisions relevant to our lives at the College are made by committees; the policies imposed by these committees are generally unknown to the majority of the student body. The lack of active student involvement in these committees only serves to compound the problem.

*If students want to affect the decisions made by committees, then a commitment to active membership is necessary.*

If students want to affect the decisions made by committees, then a commitment to active membership is necessary. While writing a letter to the editor or speaking in a town hall meeting might have influence, direct student involvement is the most effective way to promote change. Students can find such an outlet in SGA, which is responsible for appointing student committee members. Any students interested in getting involved should contact the SGA by e-mail at [sga@wooster.edu](mailto:sga@wooster.edu). Students in campus organizations should also review their charter's language. The charter

should be written in a clear and straightforward manner that states the organization's mission. Most importantly, these charters should not be treated as flexible guidelines. Adherence to the accepted procedures of a charter are fundamental to the mission of an organization.

In addition, if any student is interested in supporting *The Voice's* right to choose their leaders, send an e-mail to *The Voice* at [voice@wooster.edu](mailto:voice@wooster.edu). You can also attend the Publications Committee meeting and register your discontent with campus policy.

# THE WOOSTER VOICE

## Editors in Chief

Eliza S. Cramer and Pamela J. Miller

Managing Editor: Andrew R. Waldman\*  
 Associate Editor: Sarah E. Core\*  
 Chief Staff Writer: Daniel George\*  
 Chief Staff Photographer: Jeremy Hohertz\*  
 News Editors: Christopher Beck\*  
 Justin L. Hart\*  
 Elizabeth M. Miller\*  
 Assistant News Editor: Matthew Foulds\*  
 Viewpoints Editors: Erik W. Shilling\*  
 C.K. Fischer\*  
 Features Editors: Sarah E. Core\*  
 A&E Editors: Kara Barney\*  
 Elizabeth Weiss\*  
 Sports Editors: David Murray\*  
 Molly Rallo\*  
 Photo Editors: Colin Frazee\*  
 Caroline Hotra\*  
 Cartoonist: Will Torres

Web Administrators  
 Nancy Dujmovic  
 Andy Whitmer

Circulation Manager  
 Ronny Ewanek

Ad Manager  
 Erin Plant

[www.wooster.edu/voice](http://www.wooster.edu/voice)

\*Denotes Member of the Editorial Board

The Wooster Voice is a newspaper of the College of Wooster community, managed and produced entirely by students. The Voice is published each Friday of the academic school year, except during examinations and breaks. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the entire student body, faculty, college administration or Voice staff. Unsigned editorials are written by members of The Voice editorial board. Bylined pieces, columns and letters to the editor reflect the opinions of the writers. The Voice encourages all letters to the editors. The suggested word limit is 550 words. Letters must include a telephone number, and they must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday for Friday publication. Electronic submissions via e-mail are encouraged ([voice@wooster.edu](mailto:voice@wooster.edu)) and must include a phone number. The Voice reserves the right to condense, hold and grammatically proof any letter that it receives. The newspaper staff is not responsible for any damages resulting from advertisements run in the Voice. Paid and unpaid ads do not reflect the values or opinions of the Editorial Board. All materials contained in this newspaper may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, published or broadcast without the prior written permission of The Wooster Voice. Subscriptions to The Voice are \$40 per year nationwide, and \$47 internationally. All correspondence should be addressed to: The Wooster Voice, Box C-3187, The College of Wooster, Wooster, OH 44691, phone number 330-287-2598. Office hours are Wednesdays from 2 to 5 p.m.





## Enroll in Summer Classes at Tri-C

# Hot Summer



# Cool Classes

Only \$69.60  
per credit hour

this Summer at  
Cuyahoga Community College

1-800-954-Tri-C    [www.tri-c.edu/summer04](http://www.tri-c.edu/summer04)

5 and 10 Week Sessions:

10 Weeks: May 24 - August 1

First 5 Weeks: May 24 - June 27

Second 5 Weeks: June 28 - August 1



# EXPERT T's

Expertise in Embroidery, Airbrushing & Transfers

Custom orders for your Frat/Sorority, Club, IS, Party, Graduation!  
Clip this ad for extra 10% OFF your order of \$200 or more\*  
330-263-4588 140 S. Market Downtown Wooster M - F 10-6, Sat 10-2  
\*10 business days lead time required. Custom printing/embroidery purchased at Expert T's only  
Other restrictions may apply. Offer expires April 11, 2004.

## SELF STORAGE

Call 330-345-4224

Pay for 3 months,  
get 4th month FREE

\*\*\*\*\*

Managed by Premier Real Estate Connection  
Visa/MC accepted

The Wooster Voice  
 C-3187  
 1189 Beall Ave.  
 Wooster, OH 44691

# GNC

GENERAL NUTRITION CENTER  
FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED

Nutrition Innovation ♦ 150 Quality Checks ♦ Super Selection  
Guaranteed Potency ♦ Nutrition Hotline  
Free Nutritional Information  
Freshness Dating ♦ Nutrition Specialists ♦ Truthful Labels

WE WANT TO EARN YOUR BUSINESS.

## RECEIVE 20% OFF

NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER

3985 Burbank Rd. ♦ In the Wal-Mart Plaza  
330-345-1208



Make Reservations Now  
for  
Mother's Day  
and  
Graduation!

## Restaurant

SERVING WAYNE COUNTY GREAT FOOD SINCE 1964  
359 W. LIBERTY ST. DOWNTOWN WOOSTER 330-264-6263

Local Artist seeks  
**REDHEADS**  
For Book Project

\$10-20/hr  
330-262-2784

[www.artformpix.com](http://www.artformpix.com)



Love the cow?  
Hate the cow?

Allllll the braggin rights you can muster...  
And a cash prize for redesign of COW cards!

Does the thought of winning \$100 and leaving a lasting mark on the campus put you in a good "Mooooooood?"

The Keys and IDs office is looking to revamp the design of COW cards and is giving students an opportunity to tender their own creative designs. Submissions for the new designs will be accepted from Monday, April 19 until Monday, May 3.

For more information, and submission guidelines, contact Dia Miller at ext. 2059 or at [millerdia@wooster.edu](mailto:millerdia@wooster.edu)

2003-2004  
Survivor Support System

A group of faculty and staff who are available to confidentially assist survivors of, or those who know, survivors of sexual assault.

Nancy Anderson  
Longbrake  
Ext. 2319

Mary Bader  
Kauke 129A  
Ext. 2357

Heather Fitz Gibbon  
Kauke 7  
Ext. 2371

Pam Frese  
Kauke 8  
Ext. 2256

Dianna Kardulias  
The Lilly House  
Ext. 2301

Caroll Meyer  
Westminster Church  
Ext. 2208

Students may also contact the College counslers at Ext. 2319 or a Campus Minister at Ext. 2602. To report an assault, contact the Wooster City Police at 911 (emergencies) or 330-264-3333, or Security at Ext. 2590.

MATSOS

Matsos' Family Restaurant  
10% off all C.O.W. students  
and faculty until 3,000 AD  
154 W. Liberty St.  
330-264-8800

SEATTLE'S

Coffee House

Friday 9:30 p.m.  
Hudson & Chase

Saturday 9:30 p.m.  
Moonlight Gram

Cover charge \$3.00  
330-262-2998

Please Note: We have signed contracts with each of our advertisers. In order to honor these contracts, we are running their ads.